

RELIGIOUS LIBERTY CRISIS

The Battle of Armageddon



By the late David Paulson, M. D.

"IT IS TIME FOR THEE, LORD, TO WORK;
FOR THEY HAVE MADE VOID THY LAW."

Psa. 119: 126.

"ON THIS BATTLE FIELD COMES THE
LAST CONFLICT . . . AND WE ARE NOT
LEFT IN DOUBT AS TO THE ISSUE."

—TESTIMONIES Vol. 5, p. 451

Illuminating and Important
Heart-searching Quotations

From the

SPIRIT OF PROPHECY

CONCERNING THE RELIGIOUS LIBERTY CRISIS
JUST BEFORE US.

READ THE SEVENTH CHAPTER OF EZE-
KIEL AND ESPECIALLY THE 14th VERSE

BY

The Late David Paulson, M. D.

of the

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HINSDALE, ILL.

*No quotations are culled from the book "Great Con-
troversy" as it is already so easily accessible to the
average student.*

THE STORY OF THESE RELIGIOUS LIBERTY STUDIES

A few weeks ago I came across a statement in the Testimonies to the effect that we should be *daily* preparing our youth so that they will be able to make the *right* decision in the great religious liberty crisis just before us. It startled me, for I knew that I was *not* doing that *every* day for the young people God had sent to me.

I considered that a call of God to get something into shape so I could conduct studies for our young people here so I began to gather what I could find on this subject from Sr. White's articles in the old Reviews and from various General Conference Bulletins, and various other sources, as well as from the bound volumes.

It has occurred to me that there might be others among our leading brethren and perhaps some church elders who would appreciate copies of these studies, especially in view of the fact that the fourth Sabbath in February is Religious Liberty Day.

I have just returned from Tennessee where I learned something at first hand about how this crisis has come upon our brethren there. I believe it will spring upon the whole nation almost as *unexpectedly* as this war in Europe did. The Spirit of Prophecy has *predicted* every important *step* in the whole program.

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CHAPTER ONE

THE COMING CRISIS

"A GREAT CRISIS awaits the people of God. A CRISIS awaits the world. The most momentous struggle of all the ages is just before us." — Test. Vol. 5, p. 711.

"The whole universe is looking with inexpressible interest to see the closing work of the great controversy between Christ and Satan."—Test. Vol. 5, p. 526.

ARE WE, LIKE THE MOTHER OF MOSES, GIVING OUR YOUNG PEOPLE THIS PREPARATION FOR THE SUPREME TEST AHEAD OF THEM?

"The principles necessary for our youth to cultivate, must be kept before them in their daily education, that when the *decree shall go forth* requiring all to worship the beast and his image, they may make the right decisions, and have strength to declare, without wavering, their confidence in the commandments of God and the Faith of Jesus, even at *the very time when the LAW OF GOD IS MADE VOID by the religious world*. Those who waver now, and are tempted to follow in the wake of apostates who have departed from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits and doctrines of devils, will surely be found on the side of those who *make void the law of God*, unless they repent, and plant their feet firmly upon the faith once delivered to the saints."—Test. Vol. 5, p. 525.

THEY MUST STAND ALONE THEN, CAN THEY DO IT NOW?

"It does not seem possible to us now that any should have to stand alone; but if God has ever spoken by me, the time will come when we shall be brought before

councils and before thousands for His name's sake, and *each one* will have to give the reason for his faith. *Then will come the severest criticism upon every position that has been taken for the truth.* We need, then, to study the word of God, *that we may know why we believe the doctrines we advocate.* We must critically search the living oracles of Jehovah."—Review and Herald, December 18, 1888.

EXPERIENCE FOR THIS MUST BE OBTAINED NOW.

"The members of the church will individually be tested and proved. They will be placed in circumstances where they will be forced to bear witness for the truth. They will be called to speak before councils and in courts of justice, perhaps separately and alone. The experience which would have helped them in this emergency they have neglected to obtain, and their souls *are burdened with remorse for wasted opportunities and neglected privileges.*"—Test. Vol. 5, p. 463.

WHAT TO DO NOW SO AS TO BE CERTAIN WE SHALL ACQUIRE THIS EXPERIENCE.

"Have you that intensity of zeal, that piety and devotion, which will enable you to stand *when opposition is brought upon you?* If God has ever spoken by me, the time will come when we shall be brought before councils, and *every position of truth which we hold will be severely criticized.* The time that we are now allowing to go to waste should be devoted to the charge God has given us, of preparing for the approaching crisis. Much time should be spent in prayer, that our garments of character may be washed and made white in the blood of the Lamb."—Review, Dec. 11, 1888.

WILL BE SCATTERED ALL OVER THE EARTH.

"In the day of fierce trial, He will say, 'Come, my people, enter thou into thy chambers, and shut thy

doors about thee; hide thyself as it were for a little moment, until the indignation be overpast.' What are the chambers in which they are to hide? They are the protection of Christ and holy angels."—Missionary Sketches, p. 158.

"The people of God are not at this time all in one place. They are in different companies, and in all parts of the earth; and they will be tried singly, and not in groups. Everyone must stand the test for himself."—Missionary Sketches, p. 158.

THOSE WHO ARE HALF-HEARTED NOW WILL THEN BECOME OUR FIERCEST ENEMIES.

"The work which the church has failed to do in a time of peace and prosperity, they will have to do in a terrible crisis, under most discouraging, forbidding circumstances. The warnings that worldly conformity has silenced or withheld, must be given under the *fiercest opposition* from enemies of the faith. And at that time the superficial, conservative class, whose influence *has steadily retarded the progress of the work,* will renounce the faith, and take their stand with its avowed enemies, toward whom their sympathies have long been tending. These apostates will then manifest the most bitter enmity, doing all in their power to oppress and malign their former brethren, and to excite indignation against them."—Test. Vol. 5, p. 463.

THOSE WHO HAVE NOT LEARNED TO SAY "NO" WILL RECEIVE THE MARK OF THE BEAST THEN.

"Those who would not receive the mark of the beast and his image when the decree goes forth, must have decision now to say 'Nay'."—Early Writings, p. 67.

IF PARENTS ARE NOT PREPARED TO ANSWER THIS QUESTION NOW, HOW WILL THEY ANSWER IT THEN?

"Parents, ask yourselves the solemn question, 'Have we educated our children to yield to paternal authority, and thus trained them to obey God, to love Him, to hold His law as the supreme guide of conduct and life? Have we educated them to be missionaries for Christ? To go about doing good? Believing parents your children will have to fight decisive battles for the Lord in the day of conflict.'—Review, April 23, 1889.

"The tender mercies of this power will be displayed in prison cells and dungeons. Already preparations are advancing, and movements are in progress, which will result in making an image to the beast. *Events will be brought about in the earth's history that will fulfill the predictions of prophecy for these last days . . .* Are we preparing our children for the great crisis? *Are we preparing ourselves and our households to understand the position of our adversaries, and their modes of warfare?* Are our children forming habits of decision, that they may be firm and unyielding in every matter of principle and duty? I pray that we all may understand the signs of the times, that we may prepare ourselves and our children that in the time of conflict God may be our refuge and defence."—Review, April 23, 1889.

THOSE WHO YIELD EASILY TO WORLDLY CUSTOMS, ARE CERTAIN TO YIELD THEN.

"The time is not far distant when the test will come to every soul. The mark of the beast will be urged upon us. Those who have step by step yielded to worldly demands, and conformed to worldly customs, will not find it a hard matter to yield to the powers that be, rather than subject themselves to derision, insult, threatened imprisonment and death."—Test. Vol. 5, p.81.

THOSE WHO NOW MAKE A GOOD APPEARANCE BUT ARE FRUITLESS WILL BE SIFTED OUT THEN.

"In the absence of persecution, there have drifted into our ranks some who appear sound, and their Christianity unquestionable, but who, if persecution should arise, would go out from us. In the crisis, they would see force in the specious reasoning that had had an influence on their minds. Satan has prepared various snares to meet varied minds."—Gen. Conf. Bul. 1891, p. 257.

"WHEN THE LAW OF GOD IS MADE VOID, the church will be sifted by fiery trials, and a larger proportion than we now anticipate, will give heed to seducing spirits and doctrines of devils. Instead of being strengthened when brought into strait places, many prove that they are not living branches of the True Vine: they bore no fruit and the husbandman taketh them away."—Gen. Conf. Bulletin, 1891, p. 257.

THOSE WHO CAN DEVELOP A REVIVAL SPIRIT INSTEAD OF CRITICISMS FROM OTHERS' SHORTCOMINGS, WILL WIN OUT IN THE COMING CRISIS.

"All who will gather warmth from the coldness of others, courage from their defections, and loyalty from their treason, will triumph with the Third Angel's Message."—Review, June 8, 1897.

THE PRESENT EASY GOING TYPE OF RELIGION WILL NOT MEET THE CRISIS BEFORE US.

"A great crisis awaits the people of God. *Very soon our nation will attempt to enforce upon all the observance of the first day of the week as a sacred day.* In doing this, they will not scruple to compel men against the voice of their own conscience to observe the day

the nation declares to be the Sabbath. In view of this, there must be, among God's commandment-keeping people more spirituality and a deeper consecration to God, and a zeal in His work that has never yet been reached, to hold aloft the banner of God's truth."—Review, December 11, 1888.

"When declension and danger threaten the church, there will be more praying, more fasting, by the faithful few, and the Lord will answer the prayers offered to Him in sincerity, and at the same time He will *come forth as an avenger* because of the guiltiness of the evil-workers. He will *be a protector*; for He will *avenge His own elect*, which cry day and night unto Him, though He bear long with them."—Review, December 11, 1888.

WE MUST BE CLOTHED IN CHRIST'S RIGHTEOUSNESS.

"There is a work to be done for this time in fitting a people to stand *IN THE DAY OF TROUBLE*, and all must act their part in this work. They must be clothed with the righteousness of Christ, and be so fortified by the truth, that the delusions of Satan shall not be accepted by them *as genuine manifestations of the power of God*. Years have been lost, but will you now awake?"—Review, extra, Dec. 24, 1889.

THE WHOLE WORLD AGAINST A HANDFUL OF THE REMNANT.

"*THE WHOLE WORLD IS TO BE STIRRED WITH ENMITY AGAINST SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS*, because they will not yield homage to the papacy, by honoring Sunday, the institution of this anti-Christian power. *It is the purpose of Satan to cause them to be blotted from the earth*, in order that his supremacy of the world may not be disputed."—Review, August 31, 1893.

IF THE PRESENT EPIDEMIC OF CRITICISM AND FAULT-FINDING CAN CEASE, THEY CAN BECOME A TOWER OF STRENGTH.

"In the place of those who have the light of truth allowing jealousy and evil surmisings to come in and weaken their love and union one with another, their united prayers should ascend to heaven *for the Lord to arise, and put an end to the violence and abuse which are practiced in our world*. More prayer and less talk is what God desires, and it would make His people a tower of strength."—Review, June 15, 1897.

"Instead of increased power as we enter the perils of the last days, *weakness, dissention, and strife for supremacy, are apparent*, but if we had a connection with the God of heaven, we should be mighty in Him, and yet we would walk with all lowliness of mind, having self hid in Jesus. But now both spiritual and natural feebleness and death are depriving us of workers. *God alone, by His holy spirit, can arouse us from the slumber of death*."—Review, extra, Dec. 24, 1889.

THE PRESENT EXPERIENCE OF MINISTERS AND PEOPLE WHO ARE STANDING IN THE LIGHT.

"The solemn time has come when the ministers should be *weeping between the porch and the altar*, crying, '*SPARE THY PEOPLE, OH LORD, AND GIVE NOT THINE HERITAGE TO REPROACH*.' It is a day when instead of lifting up their souls in self-sufficiency, ministers and people should be confessing their sins before God and one another."—Review, extra, Dec. 24, 1889.

AN ELEVENTH HOUR GROUP CONVERTED IN THAT CRISIS WHILE A GROUP OF OUR PRESENT LEADERS ARE SIFTED OUT.

"The Bible will be opened from house to house, and men and women will find access to these homes, and

minds will be opened to receive the word of God; and when the crisis comes many will be prepared to make right decisions even in the face of the formidable difficulties that will be brought about through the deceptive miracles of Satan. Although these will confess the truth and become workers with Christ at the eleventh hour, they will receive equal wages with those who have wrought through the whole day. *There will be an army of steadfast believers who will stand as firm as a rock through the last test.*—Review, extra, Dec. 24, 1889.

"But where in that army are those who have been standard-bearers? Where are those whose voices have sounded in proclaiming the truth to the sinning? Some of them are not there; we look for them, but in the time of shaking they have been unable to stand, and have passed over to the enemy's ranks---- We need now the courage of God's faithful servant of old; not one wavering uncertain note should come from the watchers' trumpets."—Review, extra, Dec. 24, 1889.

THERE WILL BE A CORRUPT HARMONY BETWEEN ROME, THE CHURCH, AND THE WORLD.

"The Word of God plainly declares that His law is to be scorned, trampled upon, by the world; there will be an extraordinary prevalence of iniquity. *The professed Protestant world will form a confederacy with the man of sin, and the church and the world will be in corrupt harmony. HERE THE GREAT CRISIS IS COMING UPON THE WORLD. The Scriptures teach that popery is to regain its lost supremacy, and that the fires of persecution will be re-kindled through the time-serving concessions of the so-called Protestant world. In this time of peril we can stand only as we have the truth and the power of God. Men can know the truth only by being themselves partakers of the divine nature. We have need now for more than human wisdom in reading and*

searching the Scriptures, and if we come to God's word with humble hearts, He will raise up a standard for us against the lawless element."—Gen. Conf. Bulletin, 1891, p. 257.

IT WILL REQUIRE PAUL'S RELIGION TO PASS THROUGH PAUL'S EXPERIENCE.

"In the great crisis through which they are soon to pass, they will become better acquainted with the experience of Paul. *Among the professed followers of Christ, there is the same pride, formalism, vain glory, selfishness, and oppression that existed in the Jewish nation. Before the warfare shall be ended and the victory won, we as a people are to experience trials similar to those of Paul. We shall encounter the same hardness of heart; the same cruel determination; the same unyielding hatred----* Persecution will again be kindled against those who are true to God; their motives will be impugned, their best efforts misinterpreted, their names cast out as evil."—Life of Paul, p. 251.

"Then Satan will work with all his fascinating power, to influence the heart and becloud the understanding, to make evil appear good, and good evil. Then it *is* that he is through his agents to 'SHOW GREAT SIGNS AND WONDERS, insomuch that, if it were possible, they shall deceive the very elect.' God would have his people prepared for the soon-coming crisis. PREPARED OR UNPREPARED, we must all meet it."—Life of Paul, pp. 251-252.

"In that coming emergency, rulers and magistrates *WILL NOT INTERPOSE in behalf of God's People* There will be a corrupt harmony with all who have not been obedient to the law of God. In that day, all time servers, all who have not the genuine work of grace in their heart, will be found wanting. It will require the firmest trust, the most heroic purpose, to hold fast

the faith once delivered to the saints."—Life of Paul, p. 252.

OUR PRESENT SLEEPY CONDITION A CRIME.

"The crisis is now upon us. The *BATTLE* is to be waged *BETWEEN THE CHRISTIANITY OF THE BIBLE AND THE CHRISTIANITY OF HUMAN TRADITION*. Is there not a criminal neglect in our present sleepy condition? There must be a decided advance movement among us. *We must show to the world* that we recognize, in the events that are now taking place in connection with the National Reform movement, *the fulfilment of prophecy*."—R. & H., Jan. 1, 1889.

WE ARE NOT TO PASSIVELY ACCEPT THE SITUATION BECAUSE IT IS PREDICTED.

"Some think that because it has been revealed in prophesy that our nation shall restrict the conscience of men, it must surely come, and that if we make an effort to preserve our liberty, we shall be acting the part of unfaithful servants, and thus come under the condemnation of God. This peril now threatens the people of God; and what are we going to do? Can we not assist in lifting the standard, and in calling to the front those who have a regard for their religious rights and privileges? *God calls upon us to awake*." R. & H. December 18, 1888.

PRAY FOR THE HOLDING OF THE FOUR WINDS TILL OUR MISSIONARY MOVEMENT BECOMES WORLD-WIDE.

"The prophet saw 'four angels standing on the four corners of the earth, holding the four winds of the earth, that the winds should not blow on the earth, nor on the sea, nor on any tree. Another angel ascending from the East, cried to them, saying,

"Hurt not the earth, neither the sea, nor the trees, till we have sealed the servants of our God in their foreheads." This points out the work we now have to do which is to *CRY TO GOD FOR THE ANGELS TO HOLD THE FOUR WINDS*, until missionaries shall be sent to all parts of the world, and shall have proclaimed the warning against disobeying the law of Jehovah."—R. & H., Dec. 11, 1888.

"It is essential that we be much in prayer to God, that His voice and His power may be manifested in behalf of His people, and that the angels may *HOLD THE FOUR WINDS* until the truth is more fully proclaimed, and the servants of God are sealed in their foreheads. God is not pleased with the attitude of His people."—R. & H. Jan. 1, 1889.

"Shall we sit with folded hands, and do nothing in this crisis?—God help us to arouse from the stupor that has hung over us for years. There are more souls to be saved, and a far greater work to be done in warning our world, than has yet been accomplished - - - *IT SEEMS THAT THE BREAKING LOOSE OF THE FOUR WINDS IS ABOUT TO TAKE PLACE*."—R. & H., Dec. 18, 1888.

WE MUST AROUSE THE PUBLIC.

"The people of our land need to be aroused to resist the advances of this most dangerous foe to civil and religious liberty."—Spirit of Prophecy, Vol. 4, p. 382.

WE WILL BE HELD RESPONSIBLE FOR THE CONSEQUENCES IF WE HOLD OUR PEACE.

"Those whom God has made the depositaries of his law, and of the pure religion of Jesus must be determined to let their light shine. *If they do nothing* to disabuse the minds of the people, and *through ignorance of the truth* our legislature should abjure the principles of Protestantism, and give countenance

and support to the Roman fallacy, the spurious sab-bath, *GOD WILL HOLD HIS PEOPLE* who have had great light, *RESPONSIBLE* for their lack of diligence and faithfulness, but if the subject of religious legisla-tion is judiciously and intelligently laid before the people, and they see that through Sunday enforce-ment *the Roman apostasy* would be reenacted by the Christian world, and that the tyranny of past ages would be repeated, then whatever comes, we shall have done our duty.”—R. & H. extra, Dec. 24, 1889.

WILL OPEN OPPORTUNITY FOR INFLUEN-TIAL MEN TO KNOW THE TRUTH.

“God is going to bring around a condition of things where the good men and the men in authority will have an opportunity to know what is truth indeed, and be-cause the people will not bow the knee to the image, and receive the mark of the beast in the hand or in the forehead, but will stand to the truth because it is truth, there will be oppression, and an attempt to com-pel the conscience.”—R. & H., Apr. 15, 1880.

“The watchmen have been asleep, but may God grant that they may not sleep the sleep of death. Let all who are standing upon the walls of Zion give the trum-pet a certain sound. It is a solemn time for God’s people, but if they stand close by the bleeding side of Jesus, He will be their defense. He will open ways that the message of light may come to great men, to au-thors, and law makers. They will have opportunities of which you do not dream, and some of them will boldly advocate the claims of God’s down-trodden law.”—R. & H., extra, Dec. 24, 1889.

RELIGIOUS LIBERTY QUESTIONS MUST BE AGITATED.

“‘The wrath of man shall praise Thee,’ says the psalmist: ‘the remainder of wrath shalt Thou restrain. God means that testing truth shall be brought to the

front, and become a subject of examination and discus-sion, *even if it is through the contempt placed upon it*. The minds of the people must be agitated. Every con-troversy, every reproach, every slander, will be God’s means of provoking inquiry, and awakening minds that otherwise would slumber.”—Testimonies, Vol. 5, p. 453.

AS SATAN QUOTED SCRIPTURE TO CHRIST, SO HE WILL INSPIRE HIS AGENTS TO QUOTE IT TO US.

“Let not the commandment-keeping people of God be silent at this time, *as though we gracefully accepted the situation*. There is the prospect before us of *wag-ing a continuous war*, at the risk of imprisonment, of losing property and even life itself, to defend the law of God, which is being made void by the laws of men. *This Bible text will be quoted to us. ‘Let every soul be subject to the higher powers. The powers that be are ordained of God.’*—R. H., Jan. 1, 1889.

“The question is asked, Shall we not obey the powers that be?—*YES, WHEN THEY ARE IN HARMONY WITH THE HIGHER POWERS THAT BE.*”—R. & H., Apr. 15, 1890.

PART OF OUR MISSION IS TO AROUSE THE SPIRIT OF TRUE PROTESTANTISM.

“While the Protestant world is, by her attitude, mak-ing concessions to Rome, *we should arouse to compre-hend the situation, and view the contest before us in its true bearings*. While men have slept, Satan has been stealthily sowing tares. Let the watchmen now lift up their voice like a trumpet, and give the message which is present truth for this time. *Let them know where we are in prophetic history*, that the spirit of true Protestantism may awaken all the world to a sense of the value of the privileges of religious liberty so long enjoyed.”—R. & H., Jan. 1, 1889.

WE SHOULD PLACE OURSELVES IN THE PROPER LIGHT BEFORE THE PUBLIC AND BRING TO THE FRONT THE REAL ISSUE.

"It is our duty to do all in our power to avert the threatened danger. We should endeavor to disarm prejudice by placing ourselves in a proper light before the people. We should bring before them the real question at issue, thus interposing the most effectual protest against measures to restrict liberty of conscience. *We should search the Scriptures and be able to give the reason for our faith.* Says the prophet, 'The wicked shall do wickedly, and none of the wicked shall understand; but the wise shall understand.'"—Vol. 5, p. 452.

"*Those who have access to God through Christ have important work before them.* Now is the time to lay hold of the arm of our strength. The prayer of David should be the prayer of pastors and laymen; *'IT IS TIME FOR THEE, LORD, TO WORK; FOR THEY HAVE MADE VOID THY LAW.'* Let the servants of the Lord weep between the porch and the altar, crying, *SPARE THY PEOPLE, O LORD, AND GIVE NOT THINE HERITAGE TO REPROACH.'*"—Test. Vol. 5, p. 452.

WE MUST LEARN NOW THAT MAN'S EXTREMITY WILL BECOME GOD'S OPPORTUNITY. IT WILL BE EASY TO BELIEVE IT THEN.

"We are not doing the will of God if we sit in quietude doing nothing to preserve liberty of conscience. Fervent, effectual prayers should be ascending to heaven that this calamity may be deferred until we can accomplish the work which has so long been neglected. *Let there be most earnest prayer; and then let us work in harmony with our prayers. It may appear that Satan is triumphant, and that truth is overborne with falsehood and error.* . . . But God would have us recall His dealings with His people in the past, to save

them from their enemies. *He has always chosen extremities*, when there seemed no possible chance for deliverance from Satan's workings, for the manifestations of His power. *MAN'S NECESSITY IS GOD'S OPPORTUNITY.*"—Testimonies, Vol. 5, p. 714.

"God has always wrought for His people in their greatest extremity, when there seemed the least hope that ruin could be averted. The designs of wicked men, the enemies of the church, are subject to His power and overruling providence. He can move upon the hearts of statesmen; the wrath of the turbulent and disaffected, the haters of God, His truth, and His people, can be turned aside, even as the rivers of water are turned, if He orders it thus. Prayer moves the arm of Omnipotence. . . . He will *RESTRAIN* the forces of darkness until the warning is given to the world, and all who will heed it are prepared for the conflict."—Testimonies, Vol. 5, pp. 452-453.

CHAPTER TWO

THIS MOVEMENT FOR RELIGIOUS LEGISLATION IS INSPIRED BY SATANIC AGENCIES

"Ever since his fall, Satan has been at work to establish himself as ruler of this earth."—R. & H., March 9, 1886.

SATAN BEHIND EVERY MOVE.

"Not a move has been made in exalting the idol Sabbath, in bringing around Sunday observance through legislation, but Satan has been behind it, and has been the chief worker."—R. & H., April 5, 1890.

SATAN'S SCHEME WILL HAVE BEEN PERFECTED.

"When the legislature frames laws which exalt the first day of the week, and put it in the place of the seventh day, *the device of Satan will be perfected.*"—R. & H., April 15, 1890.

THIS SATANIC MOVEMENT WILL BE MASKED BY LEGITIMATE AND COMMENDABLE RE- FORMATORY MEASURES.

"Combining the temperance reform with the Sunday movement, they represent themselves as laboring to promote the highest interest of society; and those who refuse to unite with them are denounced as the enemies of temperance and reform. . . . It is one of Satan's devices to combine with falsehood just enough truth to give it plausibility."—Spirit of Prophecy, Vol. 4, p. 404.

SO CLOSE AN IMITATION THAT HUMAN DE- TECTION IS IMPOSSIBLE.

"*Antichrist is to perform his marvelous works in our sight. So closely will the counterfeit resemble the true, that it will be impossible to distinguish them except by the holy Scriptures.* By their testimony every statement and every miracle must be tested."—Spirit of Prophecy, Vol. 4, p. 411.

WE SHALL BE COMMANDED BY LAW TO WORSHIP THE COUNTERFEIT CHIRST.

"Satan came as an angel of light in the wilderness of temptation to deceive Christ; and he does not come to man in a hideous form, as he is sometimes represented, but as an angel of light. He will come personating Jesus Christ, working mighty miracles, and men will fall down and worship him as Jesus Christ. *We shall be commanded to worship this being whom the world will glorify as Christ.*"—R. & H., Dec. 18, 1888.

SPIRITUALISM MODERNIZED INTO "CHRIS- TIAN SCIENCE" WILL BECOME THE DEVIL'S SUBSTITUTE FOR GENUINE MEDICAL MIS- SIONARY WORK.

"As Spiritualism assimilates more closely to the nominal Christianity of the day, it has greater power to deceive and ensnare. *Satan himself is converted, after the modern order of things.* He will appear in the character of an angel of light. Through the agency of Spiritualism, miracles will be wrought, the sick will be healed, and many undeniable wonders will be performed. . . . Through Spiritualism, Satan appears as a benefactor of the race, healing the diseases of the people, and professing to present a new and more exalted system of religious faith."—Spirit of Prophecy, Vol. 4, pp. 405, 406.

THE TWO GREAT ERRORS BY WHICH SATAN WILL CEMENT TOGETHER SPIRITUALISM, PROTESTANTISM, AND ROME.

"Through the two great errors, the *immortality of the soul* and *Sunday sacredness*, Satan will bring the people under his deceptions. While the former lays the foundation of spiritualism, the latter creates a bond of sympathy with Rome. Protestantism will yet stretch her hand across the gulf to clasp hands with the Roman power; and under the influence of this **THREE-FOLD UNION**, our country will follow in the steps of Rome in trampling on the rights of conscience."—Spirit of Prophecy, Vol. 4, p. 405.

A FALSE UNIVERSAL REVIVAL, PROMOTED BY A UNITED EFFORT OF THE WORLD, THE CHURCH, SPIRITUALISM, AND ROME, TO USHER IN THE MILLENNIUM.

"The line of distinction between professing Christians and the ungodly is now hardly distinguishable. The church members love what the world loves, and are ready to join with them; *and Satan determines to unite them in one body* and thus strengthen his cause by sweeping all into the ranks of Spiritualism."—Spirit of Prophecy, Vol. 4, p. 406.

"Papists who boast of miracles as a certain mark of the true church, will be readily deceived by this wonder-working power; and Protestants, having cast away the shield of truth, will also be deluded. Papists, Protestants and worldlings will alike accept the form of godliness without the power and they will see in this union a grand movement for the conversion of the world, and the ushering in of the long-expected millenium."—Spirit of Prophecy, Vol. 4, p. 406.

UNDER SATAN'S PERSONAL GENERALSHIP, ONLY A FEW WILL DISCERN THE GENUINE FROM THE IMITATION.

"There is now need of earnest working men and women who will seek for the salvation of souls; *for Satan as a powerful general has taken the field*, and in this last remnant of time, he is working through all conceivable methods to close the door against light that God would have come to His people. He is sweeping the whole world into his ranks, and the *few who are faithful to God's requirements are the only ones who can ever withstand him*, and even these he is trying to overcome. . . . Go to God for yourselves, pray for divine enlightenment, *that you may know that you do know what is truth*, that when the wonderful miracle working power of Satan shall be displayed, and the enemy shall come as an angel of light, you may distinguish *between the genuine work of God and the imitative work of the powers of darkness*."—R. & H., extra, Dec. 24, 1889.

CHAPTER THREE

A MODERN REVIVAL OF ANCIENT PERSECUTION

"Opposition is the lot of all whom God employs to present truths especially applicable to their time."
—Spirit of Prophecy, Vol. 4, p. 118.

A REVIVAL OF PRIMITIVE CHRISTIANITY MEANS A REVIVAL OF PERSECUTION.

"Let there be a revival of the faith and power of the early church, and the spirit of persecution will be revived, and the fires of persecution will be rekindled."
—Spirit of Prophecy, Vol. 4, p. 150.

"Those who present the truth for this time should not expect to be received with greater favor than were the earlier reformers. The great controversy between truth and error, between Christ and Satan, is to increase in intensity to the close of this world's history."
—Vol. 4, p. 118, Spirit of Prophecy.

AGITATION FOR A RELIGIOUS AMENDMENT TO FOLLOW POPULAR FAVOR OF A SUNDAY LAW.

"If the people can be led to favor a Sunday law, then the clergy intend to exert their united influence to obtain a *RELIGIOUS AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION*, and compel the nation to keep Sunday."—R. & H., extra, Dec. 24, 1889.

"We see that efforts are being made to restrict our religious liberties. The Sunday question is now assuming large proportions. *AN AMENDMENT TO OUR CONSTITUTION* is being urged in Congress, and when it is obtained, oppression must follow."—R. & H., Dec. 18, 1888.

UNIVERSAL GRAFT PAVING THE WAY FOR RELIGIOUS LEGISLATION.

"Political corruption is destroying love of justice and regard for truth, and in order to secure public favor, legislators will yield to the popular demand for a law enforcing Sunday observance."—Spirit of Prophecy, Vol. 4, p. 410.

"To secure popularity and patronage, legislators will yield to the demand for a Sunday law. Those who fear God cannot accept an institution that violates a precept of the decalogue. On this *BATTLEFIELD* comes the last great conflict of the controversy between truth and error, AND WE ARE NOT LEFT IN DOUBT AS TO THE ISSUE. Now as in the days of Mordecai, the Lord will vindicate His truth and His people."—Test. Vol. 5, p. 451.

MANY ARE HONESTLY DECEIVED.

"There are many, even of those engaged in this movement for Sunday enforcement, who are blinded to the results which will follow this action. They do not see that they are striking directly against religious liberty. There are many who have never understood the claims of the Bible Sabbath and the false foundation upon which the Sunday institution rests."—Test. Vol. 5, p. 711.

CHAPTER FOUR

WHAT IS NATIONAL APOSTASY?

“‘AND THE DRAGON WAS WROTH WITH THE WOMAN, AND WENT TO MAKE WAR WITH THE REMNANT OF HER SEED, WHICH KEEP THE COMMANDMENTS OF GOD, AND HAVE THE TESTIMONY OF JESUS CHRIST.’ In the near future we shall see these words fulfilled, as the *Protestant churches unite with the world and with the papal power against commandment-keepers*. The same spirit which actuated papists in ages past will lead Protestants to pursue a similar course toward those who will maintain their loyalty to God.”—Test. Vol. 5, p. 449.

SUNDAY ENFORCEMENT IS RECOGNITION OF THE ROMAN PRINCIPLE AND WILL GIVE LIFE TO THE IMAGE.

“Any movement in favor of religious legislation is really an act of concession to the papacy, which for so many ages has steadily warred against liberty of conscience. Sunday observance owes its existence as a so-called Christian institution to the ‘Mystery of Iniquity;’ and its enforcement will be a virtual recognition of the principles which are the very cornerstone of Romanism. When *OUR NATION* shall so abjure the principles of its government as to *ENACT A SUNDAY LAW*, Protestantism will in this act join hands with popery; it will be nothing else than giving life to the tyranny which has long been eagerly watching its opportunity to spring again into active despotism.”—Test. Vol. 5, p. 711-712.

WE WILL BE PLUNGED INTO THE HORRORS OF THE DARK AGES BY INCORPORATING PAPAL PRINCIPLES INTO OUR NATIONAL CONSTITUTION.

“Through fraud and falsehood Satan is now using those who claim to be Christians to divorce the world from God’s mercy. They are working in blindness. They do not see that if a Protestant government sacrifices the principles that have made them a free, independent nation, and through legislation *brings into the Constitution*, principles that will propagate papal falsehood and papal delusion, *they are plunging into the ROMAN HORRORS OF THE DARK AGES.*”—R. & H., Dec. 11, 1888.

WHEN THE TWO-HORNED BEAST BEGINS TO SPEAK AS THE DRAGON, IT WILL REPRESENT PROTESTANTISM AS WELL AS OUR NATION.

“Prophecy represents Protestantism as having lamb-like horns, but speaking like a dragon. Already we are beginning to hear the voice of the dragon. There is a satanic force propelling the Sunday movement, but it is concealed. Even the men who are engaged in the work, are themselves blinded to the results which will follow their movement.”—R. & H., Jan. 1, 1889.

IN SEEKING THE SUPPORT OF SECULAR POWER, PROTESTANT CHURCHES FOLLOW THE FORMER EXAMPLE OF ROME.

“Our land is in jeopardy. The time is drawing on when its legislators shall so abjure the principles of Protestantism as to give countenance to the Romish apostasy. The people for whom God has so marvelously wrought, strengthening them to throw off the galling yoke of popery, *WILL BY A NATIONAL ACT* give vigor to the corrupt faith of Rome, and thus arouse the tyranny which only waits for a touch to start again into cruelty and despotism.”—Spirit of Prophecy, Vol. 4, p. 410.

“With rapid steps are we already approaching this period. When Protestant churches shall *seek the support of the secular power*, thus following the example

of that apostate church, for opposing which their ancestors endured the fiercest persecution, then will there be a *NATIONAL APOSTASY* which will end only in *NATIONAL RUIN*."—Spirit of Prophecy, Vol. 4, p. 410.

HOW POPERY WILL SECURE THE SUPREMACY IN THIS COUNTRY THAT SHE HAS LOST IN THE OLD WORLD.

"In the movements now in progress in this country to secure for the institutions and usages of the church the support of the State, Protestants are following in the steps of papists. *Nay, More*, they are opening the door for popery to regain in Protestant America the supremacy which she has lost in the Old World."—Spirit of Prophecy, Vol. 4, p. 390.

ALL NATIONS WILL THEN FOLLOW THE EXAMPLE OF THE UNITED STATES.

"Now, just now, is our time to work in foreign countries. As America, the land of religious liberty, shall unite with the papacy in forcing the consciences of men to honor the false sabbath, *THE PEOPLE OF EVERY COUNTRY ON THE GLOBE WILL BE LED TO FOLLOW HER EXAMPLE*."—Gen. Conf. Bulletin, 1893, p. 16.; Vol. 6, p. 18.

THE CUP OF INIQUITY IS FILLED AND PROBATION ENDS WHEN PUNISHMENT IS VISITED FOR NATIONAL SUNDAY LAW VIOLATION.

"There is one pointed out in prophecy as the man of sin. He is the representative of Satan - - Here is Satan's right-hand man ready to carry on the work that Satan commenced in heaven; that of trying to amend the law of God. And the Christian world has sanctioned his efforts by adopting this child of the papacy—the Sunday institution. They have nourished it and will continue to nourish it, until Protestantism shall give the hand of fellowship to the Roman power.

Then there will be a LAW AGAINST THE SABBATH OF GOD'S CREATION, and then it is that God will do a STRANGE WORK in the earth."—R. & H., March 9, 1886.

"God keeps a record with the nations: The figures are swelling against them in the books of heaven; and when it shall have become a *LAW* that the transgression of the first day of the week shall be met with punishment, then their cup will be full."—R. & H., March 9, 1886.

WHEN THE CUP OF INIQUITY IS FULL, THEN THE SEVEN LAST PLAGUES BEGIN TO BE POURED OUT.

"There is a point in human iniquity when it is time for God to interfere, and terrible are the issues. 'The Lord is slow to anger, and great in power, and will not at all acquit the wicked.' The long-suffering of God is wonderful, because *He puts constraint on His own attributes*, but punishment is none the less certain. Every century of profligacy has treasured up wrath against the day of wrath, and when the time comes and the iniquity is full, then God will do His strange work. It will be found a terrible thing to have worn out the divine patience; for the *WRATH OF GOD WILL FALL SO SIGNALLY and strongly that it is represented as being unmixed with mercy*; the very earth will be desolated."—Gen. Conf. Bul., 1891, p. 259.

THIS NATIONAL APOSTASY IS THE SIGNAL TO US THAT NATIONAL RUIN IS NEXT.

"It is at the time of the national apostasy, when acting on the policy of Satan, the rulers of the land will rank themselves on the side of the man of sin—it is then the measure of guilt is full; the *national apostasy* is the signal for *national ruin*."—Gen. Conf. Bulletin, 1891, p. 259.

WHAT CONSTITUTES "NATIONAL APOSTASY"?

"The people of the United States have been a favored people, but when they *RESTRICT RELIGIOUS LIBERTY*, surrender Protestantism, and give countenance to popery, *the measure of their guilt will be full*, and '*NATIONAL APOSTASY*' will be registered in the books of heaven. The result of this apostasy will be *NATIONAL RUIN*."—R. & H., May 2, 1893.

WHAT DIFFERENT THINGS MUST HAPPEN BEFORE GOD'S LAW IS MADE VOID IN THE FULLEST SENSE?

"A time is coming when the *LAW OF GOD* is, in a special sense, to be *MADE VOID* in our land. The rulers of our nation will, by legislative enactments, *FORCE THE SUNDAY LAW*, and thus God's people will be brought into great peril. When our nation in its legislative councils, shall enact laws to bind the consciences of men in regard to their religious privileges, enforcing Sunday observance, and *bringing OPPRESSIVE POWER to bear against those who keep the SEVENTH--DAY SABBATH*, the law will, to all intents and purposes, be made void in our land, and *NATIONAL APOSTASY* will be followed by *NATIONAL RUIN*."—R. & H., Dec. 18, 1888.

"If, in our land of boasted freedom, a Protestant government should sacrifice every principle which entered into its Constitution, and propagate papal falsehood and delusion, well may we plead, '*IT IS TIME FOR THEE, LORD, TO WORK, FOR THEY HAVE MADE VOID THY LAW*.'"—R. & H., Dec. 18, 1888.

THE UNITED STATES HAS BEEN A DIVINELY FAVORED NATION JUST AS THE CHILDREN OF ISRAEL WERE.

"When the nation for which God has worked in such a marvelous manner, and over which He has

spread the shield of Omnipotence, abandons Protestant principles, and through its legislature gives countenance and support to Romanism in limiting religious liberty, *THEN GOD WILL WORK IN HIS OWN POWER FOR HIS PEOPLE that are true*. The tyranny of Rome will be exercised, but Christ is our refuge."—Spec. Test. No. 1, p. 199.

THE THREEFOLD UNION WILL INFLUENCE THE NATION TO REPUDIATE NOT ONLY ALL PROTESTANT PRINCIPLES, BUT ALSO ITS REPUBLICAN PRINCIPLES AND MAKE DEFINITE PROVISION FOR PROPAGATING PAPAL DELUSION.

"By the *DECREE* enforcing the institution of the papacy in *VIOLATION OF THE LAW OF GOD*, our nation will disconnect herself fully from righteousness. When Protestantism shall stretch her hand across the gulf to grasp the hand of the Roman power, when she shall reach over the abyss to clasp hands with Spiritualism, when, under the influence of this *threefold union*, our country shall repudiate every principle of its Constitution as a Protestant and Republican government, and shall make provision for the propagation of papal falsehoods and delusions, *THEN WE MAY KNOW THAT THE TIME HAS COME FOR THE MARVELOUS WORKING OF SATAN, AND THAT THE END IS NEAR*."—Test. Vol. 5, p. 451.

ROMAN PRINCIPLES ARE TO BE DEFINITELY TAKEN UNDER THE CARE AND PROTECTION OF THE STATE. THEY MAY NOT BE LABELLED AS SUCH, SO IT WILL REQUIRE DIVINE DISCERNMENT TO RECOGNIZE THEM.

"The world has converted the church. Both are in harmony and are acting on a short-sighted policy. Protestants will work upon the rulers of the land to make laws to restore the ascendancy of the man of sin, who sits in the temple of God, showing himself

that he is God. Roman Catholic principles will be taken under the care and protection of the State. This *NATIONAL APOSTASY* will *SPEEDILY* be followed by *NATIONAL RUIN* - - - The Protestant governments will reach a strange pass. They will be converted to the world. They will also, in their separation from God, work to make falsehood and *apostasy from God the law of the nation.*"—R. & H., June 15, 1897.

IF WE DO NOT LEARN TO RECOGNIZE THE STEPS LEADING UP TO THIS, WE WILL NOT RECOGNIZE THE SIGN WHEN IT APPEARS.

"As the approach of the Roman armies was a sign to the disciples of the impending destruction of Jerusalem, so may this apostasy be a *SIGN* to us that the *LIMIT* of God's forbearance is reached; that the measure of our nation's iniquity is full, and that the *ANGEL OF MERCY IS ABOUT TO TAKE HER FLIGHT, NEVER TO RETURN.* The people of God will then be plunged into those scenes of affliction and distress which prophets have described as the time of Jacob's trouble. The cries of the faithful, persecuted ones ascend to Heaven."—Test. Vol. 5, p. 451.

OUR CITY BELIEVERS WILL THEN FACE THE SAME SITUATION AS LOT AND HIS FAMILY DID.

"The time is not far distant, when, like the early disciples, we shall be forced to seek refuge in desolate and solitary places. As the siege of Jerusalem by the Roman armies was the signal for flight to the Judean Christians, so the assumption of power on the part of our nation, in the *DECREE ENFORCING THE PAPAL SABBATH*, will be a warning to us. It will then be time to leave the large cities, preparatory to leaving the smaller ones for retired homes in secluded places among the mountains."—Test. Vol. 5, pp. 464-465.

CHAPTER FIVE

THE TWO - HORNED BEAST AND THE IMAGE

OUR CIVIL AND RELIGIOUS PRINCIPLES, THE REAL SECRET OF OUR PROSPERITY AND POWER.

"The lamb-like horns, emblems of innocence and gentleness, well represent the character of our government as expressed in its two fundamental principles of Republicanism and Protestantism. The Christian exiles who first left for America sought an asylum from royal oppression and priestly intolerance, and they determined to establish a government upon the broad foundations of civil and religious liberty. These principles are the *secret of our power and prosperity as a nation.*"—Spirit of Prophecy, Vol. 4, p. 277.

"Millions from other lands have sought our shores, and the United States has risen to a place among the most powerful nations of the earth."—Spirit of Prophecy, Vol. 4, p. 277.

THE TWO-HORNED BEAST WILL REVIVE BOTH PAGAN AND PAPAL PERSECUTION.

"But the stern tracings of the prophetic pencil reveal a change in this peaceful scene. The beast with lamb-like horns speaks with the voice of a dragon, and 'exerciseth all the power of the first beast before him.' The Spirit of persecution manifested by paganism and the papacy is again to be revealed. Prophecy declares that this power will say 'to them that dwell upon the earth, that they should make an *IMAGE TO THE BEAST.*' The image is made to the first or leopard-like beast, which is the one brought to view in the third angel's message."—Spirit of Prophecy, Vol. 4, pp. 277-278.

DEFINITION OF THE BEAST AND ITS IMAGE.

"By this *FIRST BEAST* is represented the Roman Church, *an ecclesiastical body clothed with civil power*, having authority to punish all dissenters. The *IMAGE* to the beast represents *ANOTHER RELIGIOUS BODY CLOTHED WITH SIMILAR POWER*. The formation of this image is the work of that beast whose peaceful rise and mild professions render it so striking a symbol of the United States. *Here is found an image to the papacy.*"—Spirit of Prophecy, Vol. 4, p. 278.

WHEN THE FEDERATION OF CHURCHES SHALL SECURE THE FULL SUPPORT OF THE GOVERNMENT, THEN THE IMAGE IS FORMED.

"When the churches of our land, uniting upon such points of faith as are held by them in common, shall influence the State to *ENFORCE THEIR DECREES* and sustain their institutions, *THEN WILL PROTESTANT AMERICA HAVE FORMED AN IMAGE OF THE ROMAN HIERARCHY*. Then the true church will be assailed by persecution, as were God's ancient people - - - Persecution always follows religious favoritism on the part of secular governments."—Spirit of Prophecy, Vol. 4, p. 278.

CHAPTER SIX

THE PAPACY, ITS PRINCIPLES AND PROGRAM

SHE POSSESSES A SUBSTITUTE FOR THE SPIRIT OF PROPHECY.

"Marvelous in her shrewdness and cunning is the Romish Church. She can read what is to be."—Spirit of Prophecy, Vol. 4, p. 397.

THE SECRET OF HER ALMOST UNIVERSAL SWAY.

"It (The Papacy) is prepared for two classes of mankind, embracing nearly the whole world—*those who would be saved by their merits, and those who would be saved in their sins*. Here is the secret of its power."—Spirit of Prophecy, Vol. 4, p. 389.

A RELIGIOUS SYSTEM SATISFYING TO THE NATURAL SENSES.

"The religious service of the Romish church is a most impressive ceremonial. Its gorgeous display and solemn rites fascinate the senses of the people, and *silence the voice of reason and of conscience*. The eye is charmed. Magnificent churches, imposing processions, golden altars, jeweled shrines, choice paintings, and exquisite culture appeal to the love of beauty. The ear also is captivated. There is nothing to excel the music."—Spirit of Prophecy, Vol. 4, pp. 382-383.

"The Romanist feels at liberty to sin, because the church claims the right to pardon. To him who loves self-indulgence, it is more pleasing to confess to a fellow-mortal than to open the soul to God. It is more palatable to human nature to do penance than to renounce sin. It is easier to mortify the flesh by sack-

cloth and nettles and galling chains than to crucify fleshly lusts."—Spirit of Prophecy, Vol. 4, p. 384.

THE SIMILARITY BETWEEN THE RELIGION THAT CRUSHED CHRIST AND THE ONE THAT WILL ENDEAVOR TO CRUSH CHRIST'S REMNANT.

"There is a striking similarity between the church of Rome and the Jewish church at the time of Christ's first advent. While the Jews secretly trampled upon every principle of the law of God, they were outwardly rigorous in the observance of its precepts, loading it down with exactions and traditions that made obedience painful and burdensome. As the Jews professed to revere the law, so do Romanists claim to revere the cross. They exalt the symbol of Christ's sufferings, while in their lives they deny Him whom it represents."—Spirit of Prophecy, Vol. 4, p. 384.

WHO ALONE WILL BE IMMUNE TO THIS DECEPTION?

"None are proof against her influence but those who have planted their feet firmly upon the foundation of truth, and whose hearts are renewed by the Spirit of God. Thousands who have not an experimental knowledge of Christ will be swept into this deception."—Spirit of Prophecy, Vol. 4, p. 383.

"Let the education and training of the members of our churches be such that the children and youth among us shall understand there are to be no concessions to this power, the man of sin."—Gen. Conf. Bulletin, 1891, p. 258.

THE LOGICAL RESULT OF THE DEVIL'S SUBSTITUTE FOR CHRISTIAN CHARITY.

"As the Protestant churches have been seeking the favor of the world, false charity has blinded their eyes. They do not see but that it is *right to believe good*

of all evil; and as the inevitable result, they will finally believe *evil of all good*."—Spirit of Prophecy, Vol 4, p. 388.

THE POPULAR BELIEF IS THAT ROME HAS BECOME TOO CIVILIZED TO PERSECUTE.

"Some urge that the Catholic religion is not what it once was; that the principles to which Protestants could not concede, and indignantly rose up to war against, were held by Catholics in the days of their ignorance and barbarism. They say that the present high mental development of the people would never allow them to adopt the plan of action carried out in the past—compelling the conscience upon religious subjects. But there is nothing in the scriptures to assure us against the reinstatement of popery. Protestants today are a self-sufficient, world-loving people, but they must have some religion, and prefer that consisting of forms and outward display, rather than the simplicity of the true religion of Jesus Christ. They are too wise in their own conceit to seek God for counsel and direction—to open the Guide Book which points them to the only way that leads to heaven. They close their hearts to Jesus in his humiliation, self-denial, and self-sacrifice, and open the door to the delusions of Satan."—R. & H., Jan. 1, 1889.

ABANDONMENT OF REFORMATORY DOCTRINES BREAKS DOWN THE WALL OF SEPARATION FROM ROME.

Romanism is now regarded by Protestants with far greater favor than in former years. There is an increasing indifference concerning the doctrines that separate the reformed churches from the papal hierarchy; the opinion is gaining ground that, after all, we do not differ so widely upon vital points, as has been supposed, and that a little concession on our part

will bring us into a better understanding with Rome - - - They excuse her horrible cruelty as the result of the barbarism of the times, and plead that civilization has changed her sentiments."—Spirit of Prophecy, Vol. 4, p. 380.

THE ADOPTION OF LIBERAL CHRISTIANITY INSTEAD OF BIBLE CHRISTIANITY, WILL BRING PROTESTANTISM INTO THE FOLD OF ROME.

"This is the religion which Protestants are beginning to look upon with so much favor, and which will eventually be united with Protestantism. *This union will not, however, be effected by a change in Catholicism; for Rome never changes. She claims infallibility.* It is Protestantism that will change. The adoption of liberal ideas on its part will bring it where it can clasp the hand of Catholicism. 'The Bible, the Bible, is the foundation of our faith,' was the cry of the Protestants of Luther's time, while the Catholics cried, 'The Fathers, custom, tradition'."—R. & H., June 1, 1886.

GENUINE PROTESTANTISM AND MODERN ROMANISM ARE NO NEARER TODAY THAN THEY WERE IN THE DAYS OF THE REFORMERS.

"Now many Protestants find it difficult to prove their doctrines from the Bible, and yet they have not the moral courage to accept the truth which involves a cross. Therefore they are fast coming to the ground of Catholics, and, using the best argument they have to evade the truth, cite the testimony of the Fathers, and the customs and precepts of men."—R. & H., June 1, 1886.

"Yes, the Protestants of the nineteenth century are fast approaching the Catholics in their infidelity

concerning the Scriptures. But there is just as wide a gulf today between Rome and the Protestantism of Luther, Crammer, Ridley, Hooper, and the noble army of martyrs, as there was when these men made the protest which gave them the name of Protestants."—R. & H., June 1, 1886.

THE SPIRIT OF PAPACY IS PERMEATING THE CHURCHES. STUDY OF HISTORY REVEALS THE SURE OUTCOME.

"The spirit of the papacy—the spirit of conformity to worldly customs, the veneration for human tradition above the commandments of God—is permeating the protestant churches and leading them on to do the same work of Sunday exaltation which the papacy has done before them. Would the reader understand the agencies to be employed in the *soon-coming contest*? He has but to trace the record of the means which Rome employed for the same object in ages past."—Spirit of Prophecy, Vol. 4, pp. 390, 391.

WHEN CERTAIN STEPS ARE TAKEN THEN SATAN BECOMES NATURAL LEADER.

"Many will plead that there is no prospect that popery will ever be revived. If it shall regain its lost ascendancy, it will be by Protestantism's giving it the right hand of fellowship. If it shall be legislated into power by the concessions of time-serving men, the fires of persecution will be rekindled against those who will not sacrifice conscience and the truth for the errors of the papacy. Only let the minds of the Christian world be turned away from God; let His law be dishonored and His holy day trampled upon, and they will be *ready to take any step where Satan may lead the way*."—R. & H., Jan. 7, 1889.

WHERE THE FIRES OF PERSECUTION WILL BE REKINDLED.

"Throughout the land the papacy is piling up her lofty and massive structures, in the secret recesses of which her former persecutions are to be repeated *And the way is preparing for the manifestation, on a grand scale, of those lying wonders by which, if it were possible, SATAN WOULD DECEIVE EVEN THE ELECT.*"—Test. Vol. 5, pp. 449, 450.

"Has the Protestant world stopped to look back at the suffering caused by popery in attempting to bind men's reason so they should not worship God as seemed right to them. Can they not see how the Roman Church has exercised her revengeful and cruel power? Those who would not bow to her mandates had to endure the prison and the stake, torture and death. And when those were swept away who would not bow their conscience to any but the God of heaven, others would spring up to fill the ranks and lift the standard of religious liberty and right."—R. & H., Dec. 18, 1888.

"And now this nation—*THE GREATEST NATION OF EARTH*—under whose government we are blessed with every religious and temporal advantage; which has been the recipient of unrivaled mercies; which Providence has watched over and shielded, by which the standard of liberty and religious freedom has been lifted—will it follow the course of the papacy and *MAKE VOID GOD'S LAW?*"—R. & H., Dec. 18, 1888.

PAPAL DOCTRINES EXERTING THEIR INFLUENCE IN LEGISLATURES, CHURCHES AND HUMAN HEARTS.

"The Christian world will learn what Romanism really is, when it is too late to escape the snare. She is silently growing in power. Her doctrines are exerting their influence in legislative halls, in the churches, and in the hearts of men. Throughout the land she

is piling up her lofty and massive structures, in the *secret recesses of which her former persecutions will be repeated.*"—Spirit of Prophecy, Vol. 4, p. 397.

THE HISTORY OF ESTHER AND HER TIME WILL BE REPEATED. "AND WHO KNOWETH WHETHER THOU ART COME TO THE KINGDOM FOR SUCH A TIME AS THIS?"

"The *DECREE* which is to go forth against the people of God will be very similar to that issued by Ahasuerus against the Jews in the time of Esther. The Persian edict sprung from the malice of Haman toward Mordecai. Not that Mordecai had done him harm, but he had refused to show him reverence which belongs only to God . . . *THE PROTESTANT WORLD TODAY SEE IN THE LITTLE COMPANY KEEPING THE SABBATH A MORDECAI IN THE GATE.*"—Vol. 5, p. 450.

"The same masterful mind that plotted against the faithful in ages past is still seeking to *rid the earth of those who fear God and obey His law.* Satan will excite indignation against the humble minority who conscientiously refuse to accept popular customs and traditions. Men of position and reputation will join with the lawless and the vile to take counsel against the people of God. Wealth, genius, education, will combine to cover them with contempt. Persecuting rulers, ministers, and church members will conspire against them. With voice and pen, by boasts, threats, and ridicule, they will seek to overthrow their faith. By false representations and angry appeals, they will stir up the passions of the people. Not having a 'Thus saith the Scriptures', to bring against the advocates of the Bible Sabbath, they will resort to *oppressive enactments to supply the lack.*"—Test. Vol. 5, p.p 450, 451.

CHAPTER SEVEN

SUPPLEMENTARY NOTES AND COMMENTS

CHRIST CONDEMNED THE PEOPLE OF HIS GENERATION BECAUSE THEY COULD DISCERN THE INDICATIONS OF THE WEATHER, BUT THEY COULD NOT "DISCERN THE SIGNS OF THE TIMES." Matt. 16: 3. *IT IS OF SUPREME IMPORTANCE THAT WE SHOULD HAVE OUR EYES OPEN TO OBSERVE THE THINGS THAT ARE TAKING PLACE WHICH FULFILL THESE PREVIOUS PREDICTIONS.*

BRINGING THE REMNANT TO TIME

The following quotation is from an article entitled "Startling Revelations of the Impending Conflict" by Elder C. S. Longacre, in the Feb., 1916 Church Officers' Gazette.

"Some startling revelations along these lines have recently been disclosed during the 'Clinic sessions' of the Lord's Day Alliance Convention held in Baltimore. These clinic sessions were secret meetings where plans were laid to 'Bring Seventh-day Adventists to time,' to offset their efforts before Congress and the State legislatures, and to require them to observe the Sunday laws, as the presiding officer stated it. - - - With fire in his eye and malice in the tone of his voice, he vigorously hammered the table with his fist and repeated: 'Seventh-day Adventists must be brought to time.' Plans were laid at these 'clinic sessions' to strike terror into Seventh-day Adventists, and bring them into subjection."

REPEAL EXEMPTIONS. INCREASE PENALTIES.

"The first plan laid was to get the State Legislatures to repeal all the exemption statutes to the Sunday laws which favored those who observed another day than Sunday as holy time.

"Last year 143 Sunday bills were introduced into the different State Legislatures at the instigation of religious organizations, and not a single Sunday bill had an exemption for those who observed another day than Sunday as holy time. - - - Thus they are endeavoring to make effective their first plan to bring us to time."

THE UNITING OF PROTESTANTISM AND ROME.

The following quotation is from the Chicago Daily News, January 5, 1916.

"A conference of clergymen which has for its object the uniting of all Christian churches throughout the world opened at Garden City last night - - - The delegates represent many denominations, including Protestant, Episcopal, Baptist, Lutheran and Presbyterian - - - A letter was read from Cardinal Gasparri, Papal Secretary of State, written, it was said, at the direction of Pope Benedict - - - Cardinal Gasparri's letter follows:

"Your project of an international convention of all who believe in Jesus Christ as God and Saviour to accomplish the speedy fulfillment of the final prayer of the Lord, that all may be one, I have, in obedience to your request, submitted to the most blessed father. I need not here describe the affection with which I saw the august pontiff kindled for you - - - The august pontiff, therefore, was pleased with your project of examining in a sincere spirit without prejudice, the essential form of the inner essence of the church. He earnestly hopes that under the spell of its native beauty you may settle all disputes and work with prosperous issue to the end that the mystical body of

Christ be no longer suffered to be rent and torn, but that, by harmony and cooperation of men's minds and likewise by the concord of their wills, unity of faith and communion may at last prevail throughout the world of men.

"Thanking you, then, that you have thought well to request the aid and support of the Roman pontiff in expediting your worthy project, his holiness expresses his earnest desire that the end may answer your expectations."

ALL UNITED, BUT IN ROME.

The following additional quotation from the same letter is from the Chicago American, of Jan. 5, 1916, under title, "Pope joins the United States Clergy for Unity."

"It is a pleasure to repeat the encouragement that the aid and earnest prayers of the Roman pontiff will never be lacking to anyone who, having freed himself from prejudiced opinions, with a true and sincere will, strives with all his strength that the unity of faith and fellowship instituted by Christ and built upon Peter may be restored, and that all who are enrolled in the name of Christian may betake themselves to the bosom of the one most loving church, and may be joined and associated as members with Christ the head."

PROTESTANT MINISTERS RECEIVE THIS ENTHUSIASTICALLY.

The following is from an editorial on this same subject in the Weekly Signs of Jan. 18, 1916, entitled, "Pope Pleads for A United Christendom."

"The letter telling of the pontiff's interest in church unity created a tremendous stir."

It is also stated, "That the ministers applauded vociferously." The editorial continues:

"Careful Bible students have taught for years, that the prophecies most clearly indicated that just before the second coming of Christ, Rome, for a very short time, will reign supreme in this world. Furthermore, the same prophecies just as clearly indicate that Protestants will cease to protest against Rome and will unite with her in forming a world-wide religious despotism and tyranny. The man who cannot see that this thing is coming with a mighty progress, must either be exceedingly indifferent or else totally blind."

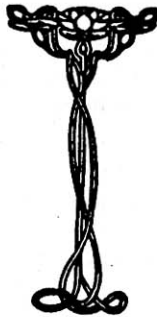
THE PROGRAM OF THE FEDERAL COUNCIL TO SAVE SOCIETY RATHER THAN SAVE INDIVIDUAL SINNERS.

Several years ago the Federal Council of Churches was organized, composed of representatives of thirty denominations and representing a church membership of fifteen million. The following is from the article, "The Church of Today" in the Feb., 1916 Signs Magazine, concerning the program of the Federal Council of Churches.

"The program includes the rescue of government from corrupt rule; the extinction of poverty and social injustice; the solution of the labor problem through the introduction of a new spirit of cooperation and brotherhood between capital and labor; the abolition of the saloon, of the social evil and of divorce; the improvement of the race through eugenics and wider education; the abatement of all forms of preventable diseases; reforms in penology—in short the bringing in of righteousness and peace on earth."

"This program is called 'The larger vision for the churches.' This vision sees America saved from its many ills and won to Christ. It sees our cities cleansed from their plague spots, the vices suppressed, intemperance banished, the streets cleansed from physical and moral pollution. It sees industrial peace and

prosperity and ultimately the world acknowledging the work and rule of the Lord Jesus Christ. It looks to no second advent. That is not necessary. The work is to be done by the church. This is a glorious vision. It is a bright and beautiful prospect, and one greatly to be desired. This all admit, but the real question is, Is it likely to be accomplished? Does God's Word warrant such an outlook for the church and give hope of its fulfillment? This is the point assumed - - - The church is leaving the narrow way reforming society, and, as they think, saving the State.'



"BLOW YE THE TRUMPET IN ZION, AND SOUND AN ALARM IN MY HOLY MOUNTAIN; LET ALL THE INHABITANTS OF THE LAND TREMBLE; FOR THE DAY OF THE LORD COMETH, FOR IT IS NIGH AT HAND;....

"BLOW THE TRUMPET IN ZION; SANCTIFY A FAST; CALL A SOLEMN ASSEMBLY; GATHER THE PEOPLE; SANCTIFY THE CONGREGATION; ASSEMBLE THE ELDERS; GATHER THE CHILDREN.... LET THE PRIESTS, THE MINISTERS OF THE LORD, WEEP BETWEEN THE PORCH AND THE ALTAR, AND LET THEM SAY, 'SPARE THY PEOPLE, O LORD, AND GIVE NOT THINE HERITAGE TO REPROACH, THAT THE HEATHEN SHOULD RULE OVER THEM;'. . . .

"THEN WILL THE LORD BE JEALOUS FOR HIS LAND AND WILL PITY HIS PEOPLE....

"BE GLAD THEN, YE CHILDREN OF ZION, AND REJOICE IN THE LORD YOUR GOD; FOR HE HATH GIVEN YOU THE FORMER RAIN MODERATELY, AND HE WILL CAUSE TO COME DOWN FOR YOU THE RAIN, THE FORMER RAIN AND THE LATTER RAIN." JOEL 2: 1, 15-18, 23.